IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

JENNIFER VANDERSTOK, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

and

BLACKHAWK MANUFACTURING GROUP, INC.,

Intervenor-Plaintiff,

Civil Action No. 4:22-cv-00691-O

v.

MERRICK GARLAND, in his official capacity as Attorney General of the United States; *et al.*,

Defendants.

PLAINTIFFS' UNOPPOSED MOTION TO STAY DEADLINE

Plaintiffs Jennifer VanDerStok; Michal G. Andren; Tactical Machining, Inc.; and Firearms Policy Coalition, Inc. hereby move this Court to stay the deadline for Plaintiffs to file a Rule 54 motion for costs and attorneys' fees to 14 days after the final resolution of Defendants' appeal from this Court's judgment. ECF Nos. 231, 234. Plaintiffs and Defendants have conferred and Defendants do not oppose Plaintiffs' request for a stay.

This Court signed and entered the Final Judgment in this matter on July 5, 2023. ECF No. 231. By rule, a motion for attorneys' fees pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54 is due 14 days after entry of Final Judgment, or July 19, 2023.¹

Of note, Plaintiffs need not seek to stay the deadline for Plaintiffs to move for fees pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1) given Defendants have appealed this Court's Final Judgment, and Fifth Circuit precedent dictates that the § 2412(d)(1)(B) deadline begins to run from final resolution of the case, including any appeals. *See Pierce v. Barnhart*, 440 F.3d 657, 662 (5th Cir. 2006).

Defendants' appeal, however, will directly impact Plaintiffs' motion for attorneys' fees and this Courts consideration of that motion. Defendants appeal can not only impact the success of Plaintiffs' motion, but will also impact the attorneys' fees that Plaintiffs' counsel have incurred pursuant to this litigation. Importantly, in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(d)(2)(B), this Court has the power to modify the deadline for filing a motion for costs.

Rather than expend the Court's time and resources on multiple piecemeal fees motions and deadlines, Plaintiffs respectfully request the Court stay the Rule 54 deadline in favor of judicial efficiency.

DATED this 14th day of July 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ R. Brent Cooper</u>

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CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE

I hereby certify that, on July 14, 2023, I conferred with Defendants' counsel, via email, and Defendants' position is reflected in this Motion.

I hereby certify that, on July 14, 2023, I conferred with Intervenor-Plaintiff's counsel, via email, and Intervenor-Plaintiff's position is reflected in this Motion.

/s/ Cody J. Wisniewski

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on July 14, 2023, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via the Court's CM/ECF system to all counsel of record.

/s/ R. Brent Cooper